THE LAST

FAREWELL SERMON,

PREACHED AT THE

TABERNACLE, near Moorfields,

APRIL 1, 1792.



By the Rev. JOHN BERRIDGE, M.A.

Taken in Short Hand, at the Time it was delivered, and faithfully transcribed.

To which is added, .

A Short Account of Mr. BERRIDGE's Death, in a Letter from a Friend, who was with him the Day he died. Also a Narrative of the Respect shewed to him by his Friends in London.

The Memory of the Righteous is bleffed.

LONDON:

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PREFACE.

A S the memory of the Rev. John Berridge is very precious to many of God's people, it is prefumed the following last farewell Sermon will be very acceptable to them, especially to those who heard it; who it is not doubted will be ready to attest that it is an exact copy of what was delivered.—That the great Head of the Church may bless the publication of it, is the sincere prayer of

The PUBLISHER.

PRETACE.

Schemency of the Rev. John Darringer is very precious to many of Golfs people, it is prefumed to be following laft farewell Sermon wary acceptable to them, effective these who heard it; who it is an exact capy of what was the antest capy of what was the antest capy of what was the area of the man the first the great Head of the area of the publication of the same has bleft the publication of the same has the fineer prayer of

The PUBLISHER.

SERMON,

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PSALM Ixii. 8:

Trust in the Lord at all times, ye people: pour out your hearts before him: God is a Refuge for us.

THIS Pfalm is a very precious one, full of gospel manna; containing directions for the church, how to walk with God.

The Pfalmist says, "Truly, in good truth, my soul waiteth upon God; for from him cometh my salvation." And B does

does he not give a good reason why his soul waited upon God? It was because all his salvation came from him. And where should a sinner look, but to him that has purchased salvation for sinners, and brings it to them who find their need of it?

He then fays, "My foul, wait thou only "upon God." He hath put in another word, only: it is but a little one, but it is very emphatical; for it is a common case with people to make Christ half a Saviour; relying upon him, and upon themselves; saying they are to be saved by faith and works: No, says David, that won't do for me; I must have all my salvation from the Lord.

"He only is my rock;" the rock on which my heart shall rest; that is, on Jesus. And if he is not your only rock, my brethren, you'll find the rock you trust in will slip away from you. Jesus will not suffer his glory to be diminished, nor let any steal one jewel from his crown; for he is worthy of all the honour that we can give him: and he is jealous of his honour: do you be jealous of his honour too, and show that you are defirous of giving him all the praise that he deferves: and, give him all that you can, you will never give him what he deserves: you will always be desective in this to all eternity; for while we are giving to him our best praises, our obligations to him increase every day.

He then fays, "I shall not be greatly "moved, while the Lord is only my rock, "and my salvation." I find him to be as he says; he is my defence from time to time; I shall not be greatly moved.

The word greatly is often of use to the children of God, who fall into doubts at times, ready to fear they shall fall from their considence. No, says David; make the Lord all your rock, and build upon him all your salvation, then you may be shaken at times, and find your considence beginning to totter, yet you shall not be greatly moved; the Lord B 2 will

will come again, and lift you up, and caufe you to rejoice in him.

But David is so pleased with the words that he hath uttered, that he repeats them over again; and he could not repeat them too often: "My soul," says he, "wait thou only upon "God." Before, he had told you what was his daily use; and now he exhorts and encourages himself to go on with this waiting. Don't be asraid of your being disappointed; continue waiting and looking for the Lord; for he will never let them fail who trust in him.

Now, if David encourages himself in trusting in the Lord, we have also the same occasion; for our hearts at times are ready to sink, and to think we shall be wrong at last; therefore take David's words, "My soul, "wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him."

But Satan may fay, Where will you look and go? What fays Peter? "Unto him who has

"has the words of eternal life." So we may fay to our fouls, when they are beginning to doubt, Where would you go! Where would you find falvation in any other! Christ only has the words of eternal life.

Then he adds, "The Lord is only my de"fence." I find him so, while I am trusting
in him: though I am often afraid, yet he is
better to me than my fears and my hopes.

Then he adds: "I shall not be moved."
Thus, by exhorting, and waiting upon the Lord, he gets more strength. He drops the word greatly, which he began with, when he said, "I shall not be greatly moved."
But now he speaks courageously: "I shall "not be moved." The Lord is my defence; he holds me up, carries me on, and at length he will bring me to himself in glory.

Then David goes on to the words in my text—" Trust in the Lord at all times, ye "people,"

Now he exhorts us what to do. Good advice; the best advice; and such as all the children of God are taking, and never find themselves disappointed: "Trust in the " Lord:" make him your confidence for all things: not only for all things, but at all times. When people are in peace and profperity, they don't feem so much to fee their need of trusting in the Lord as they did; but they are ready to drop their confidence, when the Lord has given them what they want of worldly things. Now this is a shameful practice; and the Lord often takes away what he had given them, because they had made a bad use of it. Has the Lord given you outward peace and prosperity? trust in him to preserve it; for none can preserve it, but he who gave it.

But are you brought into worldly trouble, and in great distress, and know not which way to look? You have no friend, perhaps, to go to; and your heart is ready to say, What must I do now?—All are forsaken me. No; there's one that never forsakes his people.

But you can see no way how you are be relieved.—What of all that? Has the Lord no better eyes than you? He can make a way for you, no doubt, if you trust in him. But you say, What am I to expect? Why, that relief you want. Therefore, however difficult your worldly affairs may be, and no friend at hand to help you, there's one above, always at hand: go to him; he will not despise the poor and destitute; but will hear their cry, and will help them.

If he bids you come to him, and trust in him at all times, it is your business to go to him at all times; and the more distressed your circumstances are, the more fit for God to take care of. Supposing your bosom is full of guilt, and you find trouble on the account of it; in this case you say you can't go to Christ: That is the only reason you should go. Sinners will not go to Christ while they are at ease; but when they know themselves to be in a lost state and condition, and when they can find no help any where else, then Jesus says, "I am come to save the "lost."

"lost." Go your way to him. He bids you trust in him in this time, under a sense of your lost state. If you see yourselves ruined, however deplorable and wretched your case be, it is not too hard for Christ; for he receives all that come to him: not with frowning looks: ho; but with a smiling countenance. "Come unto me, all "ye that are weary and heavy laden: come, "and I will give you rest."

What are you to do, but to trust in him in this time of sin and misery? Go to him just as you are. Don't be running to some of your lusts; nor imagine you can do any thing to prepare your way: but go and cast yourselves at the seet of Christ, saying, Lord, I am come as a ruined sinner: I know none can help me but thee; and thou hast ordered me to trust in thee at all times: I am come, Lord, at this time.

But, perhaps, when you are dying, your adversary, the devil, may tell you, Now, you are fick, and lying upon a dying-bed, 'tis too late late to come now: why did you not come fooner: there was mercy to be had then: but you have out-staid your time: Christ has been calling by his word, and by his ministers, but you would not hear them; and now he has sent the summons to you, to remove you out of this world; and you would be glad of salvation, when you can have no more comfort here. Well, when these words, and words like these, are brought to your hearts, remember where they come from; the adversary of your souls. O! he does not love to see a sinner, burdened with sin, looking unto Christ.

But Satan may fay, Did you ever hear of a finner, so great as you, come to Christ, and was received by him? Yes, tell him; you read of a cross thief, as bad as yourself, that railed on Christ when on the cross: and when he went to Christ, he must naturally think, Will he shew mercy to me? He asked for mercy; and he received it. Go you and try; that's the only way to deal with Jesus. Mind not what the adversary tells you. If

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your grief is great, confess it, and tell the Lord all your trouble; and at the same time tell him, for he loves to be told of his word with confidence and modesty; tell him when you go, Though your heart is discouraged, and Satan distresses you, and unbelief terrifies you, yet you have got his word; "Trust in "me at all times:" I come at this time: 'tis late, indeed: but it is in the time of life: I come to thee, Lord, and beseech thee to help me: shew thy mercy upon a poor sinner, that is come at last: I am now come, and desire to partake of that mercy held forth to sinners: Lord, send me that mercy, and I'll shout loudest of thy children above.

There is nothing the Lord delights in more, than to have his people, when they come to him, to plead his word, and hold it fast. Though Satan is wanting to take it away from you, never give it up. Die with your souls deceived (if that is possible) in the hands of Christ. Tell Satan, Though I am as vile as any in the world, the Lord has taught me to put my trust in him: I'll go to him, and endea-

endeavour, by his grace, to trust in him at all times. Ah, but, fays Satan, what a poor feeble faith is thine! nothing to depend upon: fometimes hoping, and fometimes doubting; dost thou expect the Lord will look upon thy little faith? Yes, tell him; the Lord does not fo much look at the greatness of our faith, when we go to him, as at the reality of it. Though faith is weak, when we come before the Lord, he will receive it. He never fent any away for that: but he often reproves his people, why they don't believe more ftrongly. Go to him, and tell him your condition: and when you call upon him, expect an answer. Nothing pleases the Lord more, than when a poor tempted and troubled foul comes to him, as Abraham did, against hope, believing in hope. You are ready to think his was a poor hope from time to time, for about twenty-five years: but he believed in hope. And what is faid of this believer in God? That he gave glory to him,

The Lord is never more glorified, than when we go to him, relying upon his word,

notwithstanding providences, and every thing else makes against us. Yet, even then, says the poor soul, the word is for me.

Christ invites sinners to come, whosever they are. And though Abraham against hope believed in hope, the Lord did not look upon this as a poor testimony of his faith: but we see, by his not hearkening to what he selt within him, nor to what temptations the devil cast in his way, he only looked at the word of God; relying upon his word and promise, though all providences made against him: he thereby gave glory to God.

And so it will be with us. When we find many things make against us, and have but a word of promise to rely upon, and yet hold it fast, then we are giving glory to God. What says the tried old soldier, Joh, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him." Well said. Though the Lord seems, by his providence and dealings with me, to cast me off, and to take no notice of me, I don't mind that. The Lord says, "Trust

"Trust in me at all times." Go to him: lie at his feet: tell him you are come, merely relying upon his word of promise; and that you have nothing to encourage you but his word. Put your trust in him, and you will find the Lord in due time will come and bless you.

I might mention many other times in which we might trust in the Lord; but it is all comprised in that little word all: and a precious word it is: "Trust in him at all "times." When you are full of fears, then you should bring the little word all unto him, and say, I have nothing to encourage me to come unto thee, but that precious little word all: "Trust in the Lord at all times."

Now Satan is very crafty: he will tell poor fouls, Why, what do you mean by trufting in the Lord? What right have you to do fo? Are you a child of God? Are you one of the elect? You are in doubt of it every day: What have you to do to truft in the Lord? Give him this answer: Though I am often afraid

afraid about my adoption, and cannot fay I am one of the children of God; this I can fay, I am one of the people. What does my text fay? "Trust in the Lord at all times, " ye people." You may go with this to the Lord. And though you cannot fatisfy yourfelf that you are an adopted child, you may fay, I am one of the people, and will lie at thy feet till thou dost shew me that I am thine adopted child. Many are often difcouraged in themselves, because they know not their election. Seek for it: wait upon the Lord: wait his time; and in due time he will make it manifest. For your encouragement, the Lord has given you these words in our text: "Trust in the Lord at all times, ye " people." Are you not one of the people? May you not plead this with the Lord, who commands all his people to trust in him? Why, then, go to him as one of the people, and expect to receive his falvation.

Take notice; it is not faid in my text, "Trust in him at all times, my people;" but "the people." Thereby he gives a general

neral order. Go to him, then, as one of the people, and expect his help.

But let us mind the next words in my text: " Pour out your hearts before him." This is a precious command. Many times the children of God are fo burdened with grief, with fin, and worldly cares, they know not how to bear them; and their bosom is full of forrow; fo that they fit down and mourn over their hard lot. The devil dearly loves to fee a child of God fit down and fay, What a fad condition I am in! Well, suppose you are? And you fay, I dare not go to the Lord, I am fo miserable. Then where would you go? You cannot be worse for it. Others are running about, from pillar to post, desiring to know what they shall do; their trials are so great, they know not how to be delivered out of them; and they go and ask one neighbour, and another, till they tire them all out. What does the Lord fay to them? He gives good advice. Inftead of making your neighbours your counsellors, go to him, who is the chief Counfellor, and able to tell you what to do,

and willing to relieve you at all times. Go to him, and fay, Lord, I am come, with a heart laden with grief, and with worldly cares, and know not which way to turn myself: what must I do? The first thing he tells you to do, is, "Pour out your hearts before me." You have been pouring them out before your neighbours; and what have you got there? Why, nothing. Then come and pour them out before me.

The word pour plainly fignifies, that the heart is full of grief, and almost assaid to empty itself before the Lord. What does he say to you? "Come, and pour out all your trouble before me." He is never weary with hearing the complaints of his people; therefore you should go, and keep nothing back: tell him every thing that hurts you, and pour all your complaints into his merciful bosom. That is a precious word: "Pour out your hearts before him." Make him your counsellor and friend: you cannot please him better than when your hearts rely wholly upon him. You may tell him, if you please,

you have been fo foolish, as to look to this friend, and the other for relief, and found none; and you now come to him, who commands you to pour out your heart before him.

But perhaps your heart is burdened, not only with worldly cares, but with finful lufts and corruptions. A fore burden indeed. And you are afraid and ashamed, perhaps, to go and tell the Lord all your trouble. But you need not be afraid of going, when he commands you. He knows every thing in your heart; all worldly cares, all finful burdens; and when the heart is quite full, he says then, "Pour out all before me." Here is great encouragement for you: take the encouragement the Lord offers: go and tell him your grief and burdens.

Ah! fays the poor foul, I have been to the Lord again and again; but I find I am finning against him daily, and I am ashamed to go to him, now my conscience accuses me, and the devil tells me I am impenitent: then how shall I appear before Christ, to pour out my

heart before him? Go and pour out your heart before him, till that crafty devil leaves you. You have the best reason in the world to go to the Saviour. He that knows what you are; what burdens you are bearing, and what sins you have committed; even he says, "Come and pour out your hearts before me."

But I may add, further, Does not the Lord command me in his word, and in his prayer, to fay, "Forgive us our trespasses?" Does it not plainly intimate, that trespasses are to be forgiven daily? Where are you to bring them, but to the Lord? Go, therefore, and tell him, you come according to his word, to acquaint him with your fins and trespasses. Ah, but, you say, I have come so often already; I am ashamed to come. What does the Lord say to Peter? "If thy brother "trespass against thee seven times a day, thou "shalt forgive him." And Peter had not a little forgiven him.

Go to Christ every day for pardon. If you keep your guilt in your bosom, it will only

only make it rankle. Tell him you are weary and ashamed of yourself; and you are come to tell him all your grief, and to beg he will come and deliver you from guilt, and fave you more and more from the power of fin. Whatever burden, therefore, you have upon your heart, the Lord would not have you fuffer it to rest there; for if you do, it will make you feeble by and by. But when you find your breast full of trouble, remember his kind word to you; "Come, poor foul, and " pour out your burdens before me." Pour out your whole hearts, and let him know every thing that diffresses you.

But what follows in the last words of my text, "God is a refuge for us?" O! thefe are precious words. We may look round about us again and again, for a place of refuge, for a person to apply to for help, and we shall find ourselves frequently, if not continually, disappointed. Therefore the Lord tells his people, for their comfort, that God is a refuge for us. Are you poor? the Lord is rich. Can you find no refuge in your fellow-

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low-creatures? and have you no where to fly to? Go to the Lord.

It is very strange, that when the Lord has all things in his hands, and all love in his heart, and advises his people to come to him, telling them that God is a refuge for them; yet they delay often to come: they had rather find refuge from a fellow-creature, than from their God. They that have learned to trust in the Lord, they know what precious words these are, "God is a refuge for us." Come, and try; and you shall find him so too.

The devil will often be telling you who are the people of God, There is no help for you, even in your God: you have been feeking for help a long time, but have found none; what will you do now? Why, tell him, you will go to him that fays, "God is a refuge for "us." But the devil will fay, You are fo poor, and so despicable a creature: what, can you think Christ will take any notice of you? Why, perhaps your own brethren are ready to over-look you; and the world despises you; and

and you think Christ will take notice of you! Tell the devil, Yes; he never fails them that trust in him. Whatever your circumstances may be; though you may look all around you; this and that way, and find no place to fly to; no refuge for your souls; God, the faithful God says, he is a refuge for you. Trust him: go to him accordingly: look unto him at all times. Let your condition be what it may; be it ever so deplorable and wretched, yet the Lord tells you, when you go, I am a refuge for you.

Be fure, if you forget every part of the Sermon, carry this home with you, "God is a "refuge for me." Therefore, though I find no help in myself, nor in creatures, yet there is help enough in God: all my help is laid upon him; and he tells helples creatures, "I am a refuge for you."

Hear it, ye poor burdened finners; and thank him for his kind word: Go to him, to have his promise fulfilled time after time.

Yet a little while, and he will bring you to his

his kingdom, where you shall live and reign with him for ever.

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Are you fick, and in great diffress, and no friend to apply to, and ready to say, What must I do now? Why, my text tells you what you are to do at all times. Whatever your case is; whether sick, poor, naked, or wretched, then come to the Lord; he says, "I am a refuge for you."

But you say, Lord, I have been sinning against thee time after time. I know it, says Christ: but if you come, weary of sin, and desirous of gospel-rest, you shall find I am a resuge for you.

But you say you come so often, you are ashamed to come. That may be a good argument to keep you from your sellow-creatures: you have been knocking often at their doors, and they are ready to say, You came to my house the other day. Well, say you, may I not come every day. No; you find no such help from man. But if you are going to Christ,

Christ, he never complains of your coming too often, but is better pleased with those that are oftenest knocking at his door, and looking to him for the help he has promised.

And ye that are poor in spirit, that cannot find relief from yourfelf, nor from your fellow-creatures, go to Christ, and he will be ready to help you: "God is a refuge for "you." O think of that word, whenever troubles enter into your mind. Repeat them again and again; and shame the devil out: tell him, Though every thing looks black, yet "God is a refuge for me." Are you to believe the devil or God? Keep these words always in your mind; for all of you will be in fuch circumstances, at times, as not to know where to go, nor what to do; then these words come fweetly into the bosom, "God " is a refuge for me." He loves to help the helpless, to hear the poor wounded foul, and to fave the guilty finner: while he is doing this, he is acting the part of a Saviour, and brings glory to himself.

But I might add, that no one knows the compassion that is found in the heart of Jesus, but himfelf: therefore, when you go to him, don't entertain any unkind thoughts of him; for he invites all finners to come to him, all poor and wretched finners; and he that invites us to come, has bleffings to dispose of. Keep the last words of my text evermore in your mind; they will be of use to you, living and dying, fick or well: whatever circumstances you are in, you may find the want of foch words as thefe, "God is a refuge for " us." Take heed, when you go to him, to do as David did; plead his word with him. This is one part of the Christian's duty, which he often neglects. David fays, "O keep my " foul, and deliver me." What then, David? Why, fays he, "for I trust in thee." He pleaded the Lord's word, and fo may you.

The promises in the Bible are free for all who see their need of them; and the Lord has told thee, if thou trustest in him, thou shalt never be consounded. But perhaps you are thinking, If I trust in the Lord, I shall be

founded: and suppose you are, you will be no worse than before: you will lose nothing by your trusting, even though it shall not be sulfilled. But remember, the Lord will never suffer his promise to fail: "Faithful is he "that hath promised." Though you may often doubt of his performing, he never did, nor never will fail. Therefore, "trust in the "Lord at all times, ye people: pour out "your hearts before him" in every time of trouble.

I do not know a more precious verse in the Scriptures than my text: "Trust in him at "all times, ye people." Though at present you may not know whether you belong to the family of God, trust him you are of the people: here hang, till he gives you better support. And when you find your poor bosom laden with cares and grief, whatever causes your distress, the Lord knows very well: if you keep it back, it will make you worse: therefore do as the Lord says; "Pour "out your heart before me:" tell me all your grief; make me your counsellor and friend

friend, and you shall find what a counsellor I am; and I will remember to comfort you in the worst state you can be in.

In health and in fickness, in life and in death, this will apply to Jesus: "He is a re"fuge for us." What would you even wish more? Go, then, unto him: doubt no more: cast away your doubts and fears: trust in him; if you cannot with full affurance, do it with some affurance; with a little faith, and expect more. Remember, the Lord loves to increase what he has given, and to build you up in faith and holiness.

I would fay a little more; but I find my strength begins to fail. I am glad, and I am thankful, that the Lord has held me up hitherto, blessed be his name. When I begin to totter, and when I experience infirmity, I am ashamed I should ever entertain a doubt of him. May these words be impressed upon my heart: "God is a refuge for me:" and may he fix it on all your hearts.

And now I conclude my subject. I came up to you trembling, but the Lord has carried me through, blessed be his name: and I look to him to carry me home; for I have no feet of my own to walk with. But the Lord can hold me up, till I have done my work, and then he will put an end to my labours. Thanks be to his name for calling me to preach out of doors. It is the glory of a creature to publish the same and salvation of God.

I must now speak a little by way of taking leave.

Lord, I befeech thee to pour thy bleffing constantly upon this congregation: thy power and glory let it be made manifest among them. Open the eyes of those that are spiritually blind, deaf, and dead. Comfort the mourner. Strengthen the weak, to go on their way. Build up thy church upon their most holy saith. May this house be filled with thy presence. Bless every hearer that attends here from time to time; and may the Lord E 2 delight

delight in them to bless them; and may they excell in his blessed service. May this ever be an house for God; kept from error; kept in union; going on their way; looking and longing for the coming of their dear Lord.

Bless all the Ministers that labour here, occasionally and statedly. Fill their mouths with thy truth. Warm their hearts with thy love. Keep them evermore in the faith; zealously disposed to exalt the honour of a dear Redeemer, and to promote the salvation of sinners.

And may the Lord bless the Trustees. Lengthen out their days. We bless thee that they have been faithful and true to their trust. Give them, Lord, the comforts of thy Holy Spirit. Enable them to go forward yet for a while; and bless their labours; and may they see that the people honour them for what they have done. May there never be wanting faithful men to succeed them; nor faithful ministers to labour among them. And as one of the Trustees has been lately removed

removed from them *, the Lord direct them in the choice of another. Be gracious to their partners in life: impress their souls with thy precious love: strengthen them, quicken them, and build them up: may the Lord delight in them, and water their souls from time to time; causing the seed of grace, that has been sown in their bosom, to bring forth fruit to life eternal.

The Lord remember all the children for good; causing them to receive a bleffing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of their salvation.

And now, Lord, I must take my leave of this chapel, which I have long visited. O! keep them continually in thy fear; and bless them abundantly with all spiritual blessings. May they evermore delight in the Lord, and the Lord delight in them to heal them.

I know not whether I shall ever return any more; nor is it needful for me to know; but this I know, if the Lord continues my life, and allows me some measure of strength, I shall crawl up again. In the mean time, think of a poor crawling creature when you are upon your knees, and put up a short petition to the Lord, that he would bless me, pardon me, sanctify and prepare me for his kingdom and glory. Amen and Amen.

May the peace of God, that passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and in the sellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

FINIS.

APPENDIX.

[In the course of business, the following Letter was received by the Publisher, two days after the much lamented death of Mr. Berripge; and gave birth to the ELEGY which has been published on the occasion, and hath given so much pleasure and satisfaction to the generality of its readers.]

Potton, January 22, 1793.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

YOU will be ready to fay, What tidings brings this messenger, which follows the other so close *? My friend, heavy tidings; or at least from the subject of a much afflicted heart this evening. This afternoon, about three o'clock, our dear pastor, Mr. Berridge, exchanged this mortal life, for an eternal unchangeable state of bliss. Oh that the Lord, whom he now beholds without a veil, may in mercy think upon his little flock, and provide for it.

We had a meeting this evening for prayer; an affecting fight! I believe not a dry eye in the place, while we fung (or attempted to fing) a

^{*} The Publisher had received a Letter from his friend, on the Saturday before; in which he informed him that Mr. Berridge was very ill.

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Hymn suited to our distressed state, as a people of slock left destitute of an under-shepherd.

I faw him this morning; but he was not able to fpeak; nor has he fpoke any thing to fignify

fince last Sunday.

He has been very happy during his illness, being well assured he was drawing very near his beloved Father's house; sometimes using this and the like expression—" Yes; and my children too will shout and say, Here's our father coming."

His Christ was very precious to his longing foul. And now all his defires are granted, refpecting himself. May his and our compassionate Lord grant his defires, and answer his prayers for his mourning flock.

Yours, &c.

J. BELLMAN.

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PERHAPS it may be a gratification to many of the friends of Mr. Berridge, who live at a distance, to be informed of the respect that was shewn him by his friends in London.

The news of his death was very unwillingly, and with much reluctance, believed. But no fooner was the news given credit to, than deep forrow and regret filled the bosom of every one that had fincere love to the deceased; not for his loss, but for the loss the church had sustained. A loss indeed!

The pulpits of his two long beloved Chapels, at Tottenham-Court-Road, and the Tabernacle near Moorfields, were decently hung with black. On the Sunday morning after the interment, a funeral Sermon was preached at the former of these places, by the Rev. Torial Joss, on John i. 47. "Behold! an Israelite indeed, in whom there is "no guile!" At the latter place, and at the same time, a funeral Sermon was preached by the Rev. Matthew Wilks, on John v. 35. "He was a "burning and a shining light." When a just tribute of respect was paid to the memory of Mr. Berridge, by each of these Gentlemen.

O that the Lord of the harvest would send forth many such faithful labourers into his harvest, who, like him, would be willing to spend and be spent, for the glory of their Lord, and for the good of souls!

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